

CLAIMS

What is claimed is:

5        1. A method for processing packetized video data, comprising the steps of:  
receiving encoded data representing a first video program having a first display resolution;  
receiving encoded data representing a second video program of a second display resolution lower than said first display resolution;  
10      generating transmission identification information for signaling a transition from said first display resolution program to said second display resolution program;  
incorporating said first video program encoded data and said second video program encoded data and said identification information into packetized data;  
15      and  
providing said packetized data for output to a transmission channel.

20      2. The method of claim 2, wherein said transition is a seamless transition.

25      3. The method of claim 1, further comprising the step of upconverting the decoded second resolution data in a decoder to provide commercials of first resolution for seamless insertion in the video program.

30      4. The method of claim 1, wherein the second video program is a video commercial.

5. The method of claim 1, wherein the first video program is a network video feed and the second video program is a local video program.

30      6. The method of claim 1, wherein the second video program is a local news program.

7. The method of claim 1, wherein said encoded data representing the first video program is generated by a network station and said encoded data representing the second video program are generated by a local station.

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8. The method of claim 7, wherein said packetized data are output to a transmission channel by a satellite.

9. A method for decoding image representative input data representing a  
10 video program of a first display resolution and incorporating video segments of a lower second display resolution, comprising the steps of:

identifying encoded data representing a video program of a first display resolution;

15 identifying encoded data representing a video segment of a second display resolution lower than said first display resolution for insertion within said video program;

acquiring identification information for signaling a transition from said first display resolution to said second display resolution; and

20 decoding said video program encoded data and said video segment encoded data to provide a decoded first resolution data output and a decoded second resolution data output respectively using said identification information; and

formatting said first and second resolution decoded data outputs for display.

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10. The method of claim 9, further comprising the step of upconverting the decoded second resolution data to provide video segment data of first resolution for seamless insertion in the video program.

30 11. The method of claim 9, wherein the video segment represents a video commercial.

12. The method of claim 9, wherein the first video program is a network video feed and the video segment is a local video program.

13. The method of claim 9, wherein the video segment is a local news  
5 program.

14. The method of claim 9, wherein said encoded data representing the first video program is generated by a network station and said encoded data representing the video segment are generated by a local station.

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15. The method of claim 14, wherein said packetized data are output to a transmission channel by a satellite.

16. A method according to claim 9, wherein said decoding step comprises  
15 the step of storing both data representing said video program and data presenting said video segment in a buffer.

17. A method according to claim 16, wherein said buffer normally stores video data of said first, higher, display resolution.

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18. A method according to claim 17, wherein said buffer is MPEG compliant.

19. A video broadcasting method comprising the steps of:  
25 receiving high definition video information from a network provider;  
translating the received high definition video information to lower definition  
video information;  
providing local video information at lower definition; and  
transmitting the translated lower definition video information and the lower  
30 definition local information in a datastream to a satellite via an uplink path.

20. A method according to claim 18, wherein:

the high definition video information is high definition television information;

and

5        the lower definition information includes at least one of standard definition television program information, news, and commercials.

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